HAKER HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL

the SHAKERITE

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The war of the generations PAGE 6

Looney cleared of all charges

BY ANTHONY SWERTLOFF
Staff Reporter

Charges were dismissed against guidance counselor Kenneth Looney on August 20 for his alleged involvment in the Holy Trinity Action Hunger Center fraud.

Last April, Looney was under investigation for allegedly forging hunger center finance director Albert Wallcott's signature on 11 checks made out to the center. The checks never got to the hunger center.

Looney was later indicted on 22 counts each of perjury, grand theft, forgery, and uttering.

On August 20, Assistant County Prosecutor Douglas S. Weiner dropped all charges against Looney.

"I would have liked for them to say that I was innocent instead of having the charges dropped," said Looney.

Looney also agreed to testify in the forgery and grand theft trial of former Holy Trinity Action Hunger Center Co-Director Mary E. Mitchell.

There was no trial, however, as Mitchell pleaded guilty, said Weiner.

"[Mitchell] pleaded guilty to 18 counts of forgery and two counts of grand theft, which are felonies," Weiner said.

According to Weiner, Mitchell decided to plead guilty when Looney agreed to cooperate with the prosecution.

Looney said that although the investigation was hard on him, he is now working to to overcome it.

"It hurts, and it is devastating, " said Looney, "but with God's help, I can put it all behind me."

When asked if Looney's reputation may have been hurt, guidance department head Jeffrey Lewis said that no one should draw conclusions about someone unless proven guilty.

"If people believe in the judicial system, then they must assume innocence. And in this case, Mr. Looney is innocent," said Lewis.

Lewis also said that everything is back to normal, and the faculty is glad that the ordeal is over.

"The guidance department and the staff have been extremely supportive, and we're all really happy for him," said Lewis.

Looney said that he wishes to thank the staff, students, and parents for all of their support.

FROM ATHLETE TO TEACHER. Social studies teacher Dave Lubinger "got smart" and decided to begin teaching rather than pursuing a career in pro sports.
Photo by Miles Molyneaux

Students, administration face changes

BY SARAH STEWART
Staff Reporter

As the summer months came to a halt, the students and administration faced the prospect of welcoming new teachers, dealing with a revised tardy system, utilizing new computers, and increased cafeteria prices.

Due to the retirement or resignation of many teachers since last school year, twelve new teachers have joined the staff.

Susan Kargin, who teaches in the history department, taught at Akron University last year while working on her doctorate. She said that she was pleasantly surprised when she obtained her position at Shaker.

"There were approximately 600 or 700 teachers looking for history jobs, and there were about five or six districts looking for [history] teachers," said Kargin. "I got lucky."

Kargin said that so far she is impressed with the caliber of the students.

"There are so many clubs that are socially connected," said Kargin. "I had no idea that students were so involved."

Social studies teacher Dave Lubinger, who is in his third year of teaching, came to Shaker after teaching at Beachwood High School and Taylor Academy.

Of his decision to become a teacher, Lubinger said, "I wanted to be a professional athlete, that was something to shoot for, but then I got smart. Teaching was a good choice. I enjoy the students."

Spanish teacher Les Foote is not entirely foreign to the Shaker Heights Schools. He said that he left the high school three years ago on a temporary basis to teach at Woodbury.

"They were looking for somebody to get the elementary [Spanish] program started, so I did that," said Foote. "It was fun."

Although he enjoyed his experience at Woodbury, Foote said that he is more comfortable at the high school and felt it was time to return.

"So far I'm glad I came back," remarked Foote. "It's been a good start."

In addition to the staff changes, a new tardy policy has been put in effect for the 1990-1990 school year.

According to the attendance guide, "the third and each successive unexcused tardy to a class will result in a Tuesday or Thursday 3:15 - 4:30 p.m. detention. Failure to attend will result in a four-hour Saturday school detention."

Until this year the tardy policy assigned a Saturday school detention after five tardies in a single class. Students did not receive another detention until another five tardies were accumulated.

Richard Vlah, the ninth grade unit principal, said, "The trouble with [the old policy] was that it delayed the detention to a Saturday. This way is comes on Tuesday or Thursday."

Vlah said that the policy was developed because tardiness cheated a lot of students out of an education.

"It's so [the students] can benefit for a full period of education.

(Continued on page 3)

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Murder of junior stuns school, community

In Memoriam:
Lisa Lee Pruett
(1974-1990)

Lisa Pruett, who was a junior at Shaker, was found by police stabbed to death in a resident's yard on the corner of South Woodland and Lee in the early morning hours of Sept. 14.

Lisa's murder was a shock to both the school and the community at large. The school district's crisis response team which includes psychologists, clergy, and counselors was rushed in to deal with the grief and fear experienced by many high school students.

A service attended by hundreds of family members, friends, and district faculty was held in Lisa's memory on Sept. 17. At press time, police have revealed that they have a suspect, who is under doctor's care, and are expecting to file charges soon.

Lisa was a talented individual: a member of the band, the softball team, the Student Group on Race Relations, The Semanteme and The Shakerite.

Shaker graduate killed while hiking

THE BRIEFS

Shaker Heights High School graduate Molly LaRue was slain on the section of the Appalachian Trail in Pennsylvania along with her boyfriend, Geoffrey Hood, on Sept. 13.

LaRue, an art student at Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware, Ohio, was the designer of the Family Unity Stamp. She received a master's degree in art therapy.

LaRue's former art teacher, Jim Hoffman, said that "she would walk into a room and light it up. She was so very talanted and was so modest about [her talents]."

A suspect, David (Casey) Horn, was arrested Sept. 14 after two hikers told officials that he matched a description of the wanted man. State police said that he was found wearing Hood's shoes.

Funeral services were held for LaRue in Cleveland Heights on Sept. 17.

SHAKERITE JOINS RECYCLING EFFORT

In response to the growing concern for environmental consciousness, The Shakerite has begun printing its issues on recycled newsprint. We feel it is important for students to be informed about the environment.

YOUTH ENDING HUNGER DINNER

Youth Ending Hunger held a dinner on Sept. 27 to raise money for St. John's Hunger Center. The dinner featured a vegetarian meal served by high school teachers who had volunteered their time and members of Youth Ending Hunger.

According to science teacher Harry Wise, the adviser of Youth Ending Hunger, the dinner raised some $500 dollars, which will be donated to St. John's. Wise said that he was pleased with the way the dinner went.

Traffic barriers create new controversy

Sign proclaims 'Apartheid Shaker'

BY JAMIL SMITH
Staff Reporter

A sign reading, "Entering Apartheid Shaker: Home of Barricades!" was placed near the intersection of Lee and Scottsdale Roads as a result of a protest by the city of Cleveland to have the "traffic diverters" removed.

The traffic diverters, located at the end of Avalon, Ingleside and Scottsdale Roads, were originally constructed along the Shaker-Cleveland border to control the continuous flow of cars coming from the Cleveland area. Once the diverters were built, the city of Cleveland began to fight Shaker on this issue. The argument of racism had not arisen until now, however.

According to Mayor Stephen Alfred, the allegations of racism and references to Shaker as an apartheid state were "outrageous." However, Alfred said the city did not plan to take legal action against the city of Cleveland since the sign was not inside Shaker city limits.

Charles Patton, Cleveland Ward 1 councilman, brought forward the idea of the banner. Patton, who has been a long-time opponent of the diverters, encouraged Cleveland residents to boycott nearby Shaker businesses.

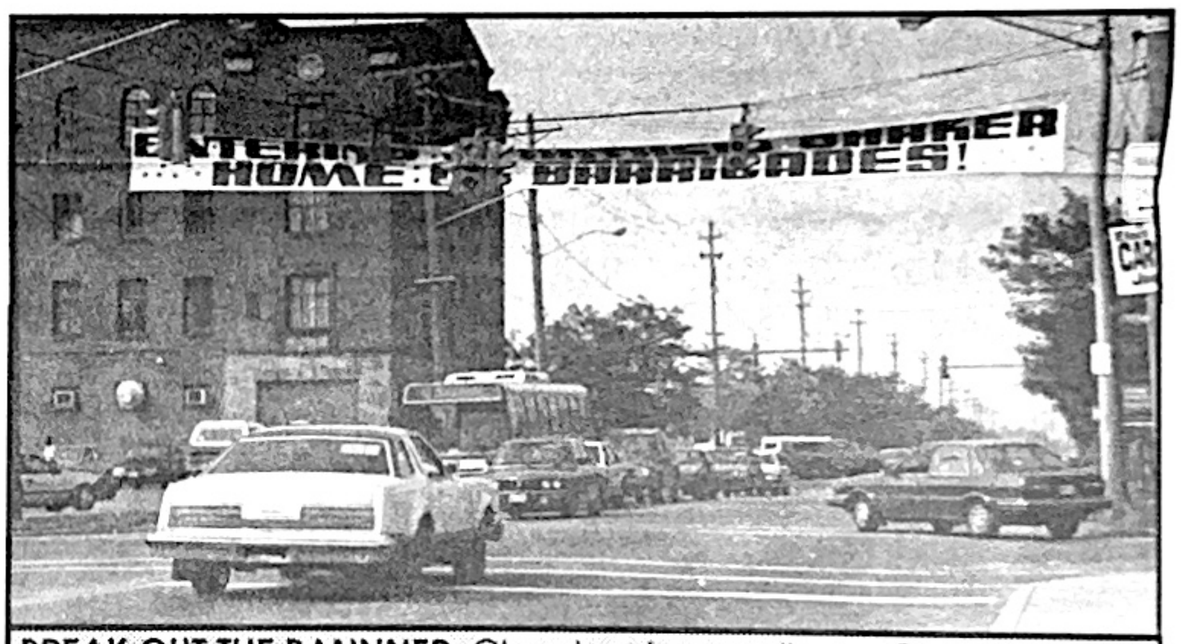
"If Shaker can use our streets, then we should be able to use theirs," Patton said.

Some students and teachers disapprove of Patton's actions.

"It's childish, the way they have handled the situation. [Cleveland City Council] needs to try a different way of solving the problem," sophomore Ted Nims said.

"This was just a cheap, political trick. By doing this, [Patton] has disrupted Michael White's train of success," said social studies teacher Ruben Henderson.

During the weekend of Sept. 15 and 16, the sign was reportedly destroyed by the rainy weather. According to Patton, replacemant of the sign is planned, but the time has not been determined.



BREAK OUT THE BANNNER. Cleveland councilman Charles L. Patton protested the traffic diverters by placing this banner on Lee Rd.
Photo courtesy of Grittsmill photographer Matt Pierce

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City council approves group home for the retarded

BY MIKE GIANNELLI
Staff Reporter

The Shaker Heights City Council unanimously approved the special use permit for a group home for the mentally retarded. The home, located at 3270 Warrington Road, has raised the concerns of many Shaker Heights residents.

The home, operated by Rosemary Center, will serve as residence for eight mentally retarded adults. The estimated cost of the home with renovations is $350,000.

The owner of the residence, North Coast Community Homes, Inc., will "inspect the home periodically to insure that the home is being maintained in accordance with its lease with the Board," according to the Board application.

Warrington Road residents have mixed feelings about the group home. In a letter to Mayor Stephen Alfred, Kathleen Hickman, who lives next to the group home, said that she and her family "believe that this home will be a desirable addition to the neighborhood and an asset to the community," and they welcome the opportunity to be neighbors of the mentally retarded residents.

However, some residents do not feel that way. Louis Gray and Debbie Scuddamore presented the Shaker Heights Planning Commission with a petition containing 250 signatures opposing the home. The petition states that the 3270 Warrington Road location "would be the only group home operated or proposed by (North Coast Community Homes, Inc.) that is on a strictly residential street as opposed to a major thoroughfare."

Glenn Billington, lawyer for North Coast Community Homes, said that this is untrue.

The petition also stated the city's guideline that "there should be no disproportionate concentration of group homes in any one particular area of the City" had been violated.

Councilwoman Pat Mearns said that the proposed site followed the city's guidelines.

Property values have also become a concern in regard to the family home.

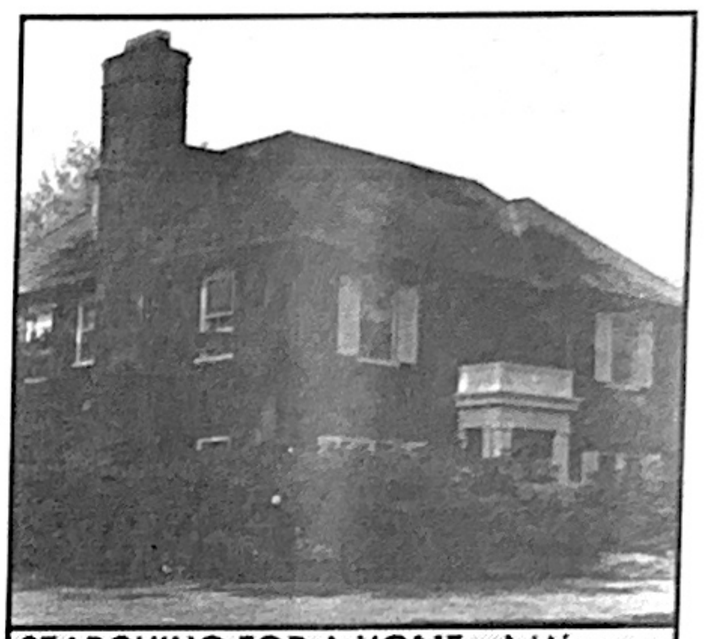
James and Marion Egee, residents of Warrington Road for over 30 years, say that "property values will certainly be negatively affected" in a letter to Joyce Braverman, the Deputy Director of the Planning and Developement Department.

Billington replied that there is "no diminuation of property value."

Sarah Reader, the Special Education Committee chairperson on the Boulevard PTA Board, feels that a truly integrated community should include individuals with mental retardation.

Reader's daughter, Becky, 10, has Down's syndrome. Reader hopes that someday Becky "will live as independently as she possibly can, and if that means a group home, then that would be wonderful."

is no basis in the neigh-



SEARCHING FOR A HOME. A Warrington Road residence will house eight mentally retarded adults.
Photo by Miles Molyneaux

Ohio law targets teen dropouts, drug abusers

BY ELIEZER GURARIE
Staff Reporter

Student's drivers licenses can now be revoked because of a new state law passed in May.

Since the law was passed, dropping out of school, possession or use of illegal drugs and alcohol, and 15 days total or 10 consecutive days of cutting classes can result in a suspended license. The suspension is dropped when the student reaches 18 years of age.

The controversial law, based on a successful West Virginia version, has elicited a variety of responses from students and staff throughout Shaker.

"I am very skeptical," said Shaker School Superintendent Mark Freeman. "I would support [the law] if I were sure that it would help young people, but I'm not certain of that."

> *"I would support [the law] if I were sure it would help young people, but I'm not certain of that."*
> SUPERINTENDENT MARK FREEMAN

Freeman pointed out that dropouts without cars might be unable to obtain jobs, which they would need under the circumstances.

However, Freeman firmly asserted that the law would always be obeyed unless the district was confident that the lack of a license would hurt the student.

Although many people supported the drug and alcohol clause, the attendance aspect was more unpopular.

"I disagree with the parts about dropping out and cutting," said Math teacher Craig Maxwell. "I don't see the correlation between driving and attendance and I don't think [suspending the licenses] will be a deterrent."

"Dropping out and 10 days of cutting should not affect your license because it doesn't affect your driving," said sophomore Michael Register.

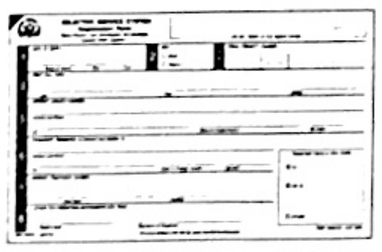
Nevertheless, a few students remain supportive of the new law.

"Dropping out of high school can ruin your future anyway, and losing your driver's license won't make much of a difference," said an anonymous sophomore. "If you're caught using drugs and alcohol, you shouldn't be driving anyway."

Junior Michael Altose had similar feelings about the law.

"Driving is a privelege, not a right," he said. "If a student does something illegal like drugs, his priveleges can be revoked, but I think the same incentive could be justly applied to many other situations, including school attendance."

BEFORE YOU CAN FOLLOW YOUR DREAMS, YOU'VE GOT TO FOLLOW THE RULES.



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Changes (Continued from page 1)

It helps you organize your day, your life, your whole frame of mind," said Vlah.

Vlah said of the effectiveness of the new policy, "I think the students are hustling to class right now."

Another change benefiting the school was the addition of approximately 70 new computers, 52 of which are for student use. The computers which were replaced are now being utilized by various departments throughout the school.

According to Anthony Smith, head of the computer science department, funds from the $10 million bond issue passed last May were used to purchase the computers.

In addition to the updated computers, Smith said, "All of [the computers in the computer classrooms] are now linked together."

Accompanying the other changes within the school is a price increase of some items sold in the cafeteria.

The type "A" lunch, which offers a student five components, is priced at two dollars, which is 25 cents more than last year's price. According to Odessa King, the supervisor of food service, most of the "a la carte" items went up five cents.

King cited several reasons for the price increase. She said that prior to this year, the cafeteria received free cheese and ground meat from the government, but due to a lack of surplus, the cafeteria is now without this free food.

In addition, King stated that the cafeteria no longer sells pre-cooked foods, but cooks things from scratch. The inflation of food prices has also contributed to the rise in the price of students' lunches.

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Barricades for traffic diversion not racial segregation

THE RITE IDEA

When Ward I Councilman, Charles Patton, erected a banner over Lee road proclaiming "Entering Apartheid Shaker, Home of Barricades!" he accused Shaker Heights of a very serious moral crime.

According to Webster's Dictionary, the definition of apartheid is the "policy of strict racial segregation and discrimination against the native Negroes and other colored peoples." This meaning applies to the harsh discriminations practiced in South Africa or the deep South during the 19th century, not the racial balance of Shaker Heights.

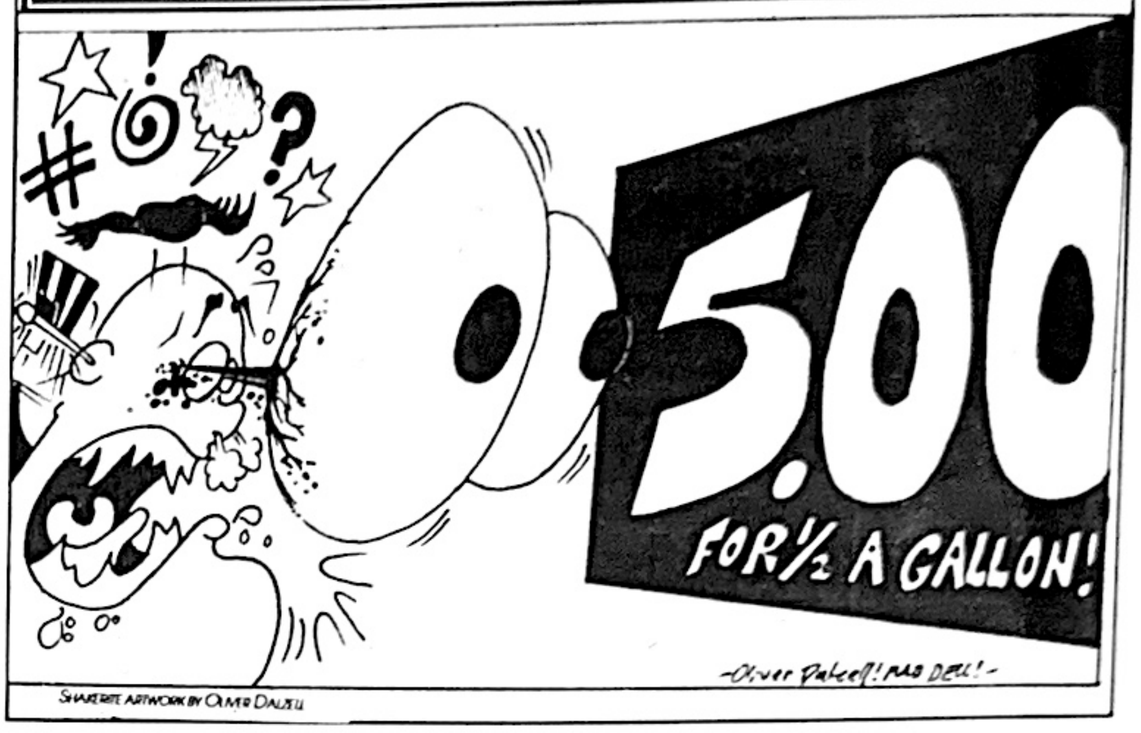
The banner was erected in protest to the presence of traffic barricades permanently placed around the areas of Ingleside, Avalon and Scottsdale roads during the 60's. Before the barricades the traffic flow was about 250 cars an hour. After the barricades the numbers dropped to about 40 cars an hour. Fewer cars on these side streets means a safer environment for all residents.

The purpose of the barrier is not to shield Shaker Heights or block out Cleveland, but rather to divert traffic around these residential areas. A traffic diverter should not be broadcast as racial discrimination when the two have no similarities. When you see a flashing yellow arrow telling you to go around construction, do you stop and complain that this is racial injustice?

This is not the first time this issue has shown its gruesome face. During the 80's the case was taken to the state Supreme Court where the barricades were declared legal. The barriers remain today for the same reason they were erected in the 60's. If anything, they are more needed today than in the past due to increasing traffic over the years.

The barricades are very helpful in the control of traffic. They benefit the community by proving a safe, traffic free environment in which to live in. Something that benefits the community should not be critizied, especially something that has been falsely accused.

EDITORIAL CARTOON



SHAKERITE ARTWORK BY OLIVER DALZELL

Middle East situation paralleled to Hitler's invasion of Poland

BY JOEL VANARSDALE
Staff Reporter

The world breathed a sigh of relief on April 30, 1945, when Adolf Hitler committed suicide, but now that relief is over. There is a new lunatic, Saddam Hussein, "The Butcher of Baghdad."

For years Hussein has ravaged and brutalized the Middle East but recently his terrorism is spreading world wide, beginning with Kuwait. On Aug. 9, the Iraqi army overtook Kuwait much in the same way that the Nazi's invaded Poland in August, 45 years ago.

This move shows incredible foolishness on the part of Hussein. Even though Kuwait is a tiny country, the impact of the invasion was immediately felt worldwide, especially in the White House. Jumping on the ability to flex his military might Bush immediately began mobilization against Iraq. Within the first week and a half 50,000 American soldiers were feeling the desert heat of Saudi Arabia.

Although moving rapidly into the Middle East appeared like the right step in stopping the aggression of Hussein, it may have been the worst thing possible. The U.S. reacted so quickly that it immediately cornered Iraq. Cornering a madman who happens to posses the third largest military in the world is not the smartest thing to do. This leaves Hussein with only one option, to come out fighting.

However, Hussein could not come out fighting because he had miscalculated. He had counted on a nonexistent Arab uprising. Even worse, by that time most of the Arabs were ready to fight against him.

Hussein had trapped himself in a no-win situation. Most of the world, including the American people, was in support of Bush's sanctions and military deployment. Hussein was on the verge of starting a war that could only bring his country to destruction.

This was the scenario just over a month ago; Now the situation is beginning to change. The initial support of Bush is starting to wear off, reserves are being yanked from their homes and Western hostages are being used as pawns. The warning signs of war are beginning to appear.

Now, Bush's excessive use of his military might is only worsening the situation. Bush continues the military build up in Iraq, while completely ignoring the cost and effect this has on peoples' lives. He asked Gorbachev for troops, without considering the fact that Soviet mothers have had to bury their sons coming back from Afghanistan for the past 10 years.

Bush thinks that the only way to stop Iraq is militarily, but he could not be more wrong. So far the best weapon against Iraq has proven to be an economic one. Hussein's people are starving and are questioning Hussein's actions. It can only be a matter of time before the Iraqi people realize that their leader has made a mistake and that in order for their country to survive, he must go.

The last thing the world needs is another war but the current fact is that one may be necessary if Hussein is not ousted. Hussein's present military threat is a large one but does not have to be a deadly one. If conditions continue, however, in a few years Iraq will have a legitimate nuclear threat, and then the world will see a kind of devastation never felt before, maybe even greater than the devastation inflicted by Adolf Hitler.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Gym grade in GPA

To the editor,

I am writing to you concerning the administrative decision to count physical education credits toward the class rank of the class of '93 and beyond. Although I am confident that the administration has some reason for this, such a decision may hurt many academically talented students. Allow me to explain.

As a senior about to apply to selective colleges, I know the need for any advantage, however small, that will distinguish me from the thousands of other high school students also applying. Although a few decimal points on my GPA may not seem like much, it becomes quite important at institutions where very few applicants are accepted. Since physical education is a level three course, it can lower the GPA of some students, especially those who have chosen to challenge themselves academically by enrolling themselves in AP and Honors courses.

I am not against physical education. I recognize that a sound body is a necessary part of one's health and that Shaker Heights High School is providing its students a service by requiring them to take physical education. However, the administration should not disservice academically talented students by arbitrarily lowering their GPA through the required gym course.

Joshua Randall, Senior

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✔ NSPA/JEA Regional Pacemaker Award Winner 1989

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Is environmental obsession just a fad?

BY DEBRA MAYERS
Opinion Editor

PERSPECTIVE

Sometime within the past year, America became obsessed with the environment. We have succeeded in broadcasting the subject of our dying world. Although this obsession is to be commendable, one has to wonder if it is really sincere.

How do we differentiate between those who work for the good of the cause and those who participate because t is the "in" thing to do, the environmental fad. The dedicated people in organizations solving these problems need or want supporters that will only stick around as long as the campaign lasts. They need people who will be around as long as the problem exists, but long term dedication takes desire and work.

Work, you say? I'm actually going to have to work? Yes. And work is more than going to a meeting after school; it takes time and patience.

One cannot expect major environmental problems, which have taken years to create, to disappear overnight. Even with all the pressing scientific evidence of today, proving everyday products to be harmful pollutants, it is hard to convince large companies to change their ways.

Honestly, who really thought that a multi-billion dollar franchise, such as McDonalds, could just completely switch from styrofoam to paper.

The problem of air pollution is also a growing cause. The state of California, for example, is now learning the hard way about air pollution. For years they drove their gas guzzling cars down their beautiful valleys, and now they are choking from the smog. Eventually this could happen to all of us. Why aren't we taking the hint, or rather the example, that California so willingly gave us, by preventing other incidents like this from happening.

For the future generations and the world's sake, I hope that this fad doesn't die out, maybe for this once it really isn't a fad. But for some reason the pessimistic side of me won this argument. I really don't think that this craze will be around for long, and I hope I will be proved wrong.

Unfortunately, helping the environment is not an easy task. It includes making sacrifices, and no one enjoys giving up what they have. Perhaps sacrifices should be made with the attitude that it may actually benefit you or your children. The sacrifice might be worth it.

By setting our expectations a little too high and by glorifying this subject a bit much, we've lost sight of the true cause. Our job is to bring it back to earth, where the problems originated.

A sure cure for bad school pictures

BY NANOR TABRIZI
Staff Repoter

"Put your feet on the taped mark in front of you, toes facing left. Now, turn your face towards me, still keeping your body turned to the right. Put your hands together in your lap, keep your back straight, give me a big smile and say 'cheese!'"

Get the picture? I certainly did and it looked awful! My school pictures never look good. Either my body is tilted and it looks as if I'm ready to fall out of the picture, or my sweater and my hair blend to the same shade of lime green. It seems the trademark of all photographers is the ability to create the special effect of making brown eyes instantly turn to red glowing eyes.

The puke coloring of the background doesn't help matters either. Between the green hair and red glowing eyes, any Christy Brinkley can come out looking like a Frankenstein. We should relocate the photographer to a new job taking circus pictures. At least they would get the colors right.

I shouldn't complain, but, the camera always seems to pick out the one flaw on your face. Oh, did you get a pimple today? Well you can bet that the camera will do its best to focus on it, just in case no one else noticed.

But fear no more. Even though this year's pictures are done and gone (thank goodness!), there's still bound to be a time and place where a camera appears. That's why my tips are here: Let me give you guaranteed ways to picture perfectly.

No haircuts!

Never get a haircut before pictures are taken. Being in a hairdresser's chair gasping for breath under one of those suffocating plastic smocks is not the place to be a week before the pictures are

snapped. Let's face it, the majority of your hair is not the only thing that ends up on the floor. So are your hopes of having a good picture after that butchering.

Smile.

As soon as those annoying picture forms hit the table in English class, you know to head for the mirror to start practicing. Turn your head to the left. Smile. Turn your head to the right. Smile. Maybe your face should be center, hold that pose. Smile. Try grinning instead. No, that doesn't work. Go back to smiling. Great, stay like that for

two weeks and you'll look perfect.

Wearing Brights?

Before you ransack your closet for that perfect outfit, follow these helpful hints. The first advice is to wear bright colors. But how bright is bright? Think twice before adorning your fluorescent pink and green sweatshirt. Maybe just stick with your simpler turtleneck of royal blue and red.

Good Mood.

Take pains to be in a good mood. This is definitely the hardest step to carry out, yet it is the most important. Being in a good or bad mood dictates what expression your face will be in. To sustain a good mood, I would suggest not coming to school altogether, but I don't have that authority, so you'll have to take this one into your own hands.

If none of these help, I still have some consolations for you. Just flip through the yearbook and notice all the other ridiculous looking and awful pictures. That's a sure cure.

Lisa remembered in hearts of students

BY TANIA MENESSE AND KATHRYN SCHULZ
Staff Reporters

Lisa Pruett was murdered during the early hours of Sept. 14. To the world Lisa's death was a tragedy: a cause for fear, sensational news stories and police reports.

For those who held Lisa close to their hearts her death was a tragedy that left a gap in our lives that we will never be able to fill. To us Lisa was not simply a victim of a violent crime. She was a vibrant 16-year-old girl; River Pheonix was her fascination, "Moonshadow" her song, purple her obsession, and we were her friends.

Sept. 17 was a bright chilly afternoon when we gathered at Euclid Avenue Congregational Church of Christ to say goodbye to Lisa. As our classmates Ted Folkman and Shelby Hyvonen read a tribute to Lisa, the expected tears were there, but we could not help but smile the cheesey smile that Lisa had always inspired in us. Lisa was crazy and extrem, brilliant and silly, and the memories of our years together are heartwarming.

"I can't cry or be sad about Lisa because Lisa always made me smile," said junior Chris Jones.

Lisa told us that she had three goals in life: she wanted to fly, she wanted to be on Sesame Street and she wanted to become whatever was her heart's desire when and if she grew up. She said "if" because she didn't really want to ever grow up completely. There would always have been a little kid somewhere inside of her. She asked us once, "Why should I have to spend my whole life trying to grow up when I'm perfectly happy the way I am?"

Lately, we've all had to struggle to make sense out of nonsense. We'd rather make nonsense out of nonsense. After all, nonsense was Lisa's specialty. Junior Charley Martin pictured Lisa as being "someplace where she was making all of the angels laugh and demanding purple wings."

Lisa was exceptionally intelligent, played softball (not field hockey!), played the flute in the band, wrote for the Shakerite and was a co-editor-in-chief of Semanteme. She hiked, skiied, went boating and camped.

"She was a fun-loving, caring, happy, innocent, child-like, honest, beautiful person who will be missed by the whole world," said her boyfriend, junior Dan Dreifort.

After Lisa's death, her friends were reminded of a story that Lisa's fifth grade teacher read aloud to them. It was about caterpillars becoming butterflies.

One caterpillar asked another if they had to die first to become a butterfly. "Yes and no," he answered. "What appears to be you will still die, but in reality you will still live. Life is changed, not taken away." Isn't that different from those who die without ever becoming a butterfly?

The life of a child is the joy and youth of the world. When a child dies, a better part of the world dies. Lisa was a better part of this world, and as a friend to us all, in her death a sacred part of all of us died with her. May she rest in peace and in our memory forever.
- Clark Pope

Young America:

Uninformed or just ignorant?

GOOFING OFF. Sophomores Ian Mirmelstein and Andrew Barnett fool around in the classroom. Will they and others like them be prepared to face the problems of the future? *Photo by Clay Weiner*

Students show what they do or do not know

BY ALISA WARSHAY
Staff Reporter

In an effort to figure out just how much the student body here at the high school knows, we surveyed aproximately 200 students, asking them about the current issues that most adults are aware of. Here are the results.

37.4% of those surveyed did not know of Marion Barry, former mayor of Washington, D.C. who was indicted on drug charges.

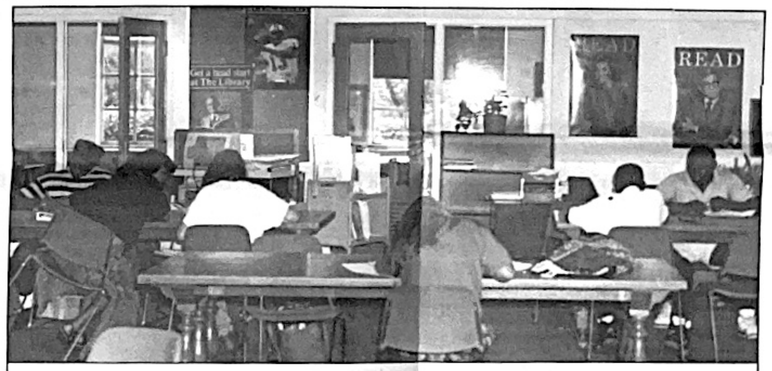
41.4% knew that James Baker was the Secretary of State.

30.7% could not identify Saddam Hussein, President of Iraq.

19.4% could not identify New York state on a map.

38.0% did not know that Kuwait was the country Iraq invaded this summer

38.6% knew that the Intifada was the conflict between the Palestinians and Israelis.



STUDYING HARD. Students take advantage of the library's studious atmosphere as many prepare for their classes. Since the beginning of our school careers, we have been taught that good grades come from working hard. *Photo by Clay Weiner*

'Me' generation lacks political conscience

COMMENTARY

BY JERRY GRAHAM
Guest writer

Although comparing generations is always risky business, I couldn't resist the temptation to accept the invitation of the Shakerite to offer my views regarding how today's students are politically different from those of the Vietnam-Watergate era. My only real perspective comes from having taught American Government at Shaker since 1965. In those 25 years I have observed an incredible change in the political attitudes and awareness of Shaker students.

Shaker students of the 60's and 70's possessed an extremely high sense of political efficacy and, perhaps as a result, were able to make important changes in their political world. At Shaker they brought an end to such things as an arbitrary and unconstitutional dress code, censorship of Student Council candidates' speeches, the imposition of required flag salute ceremonies and dozens of other administrative dictates. On the positive side, they demanded and subsequently received an important voice in the school's curriculum and governmental structure. The result was clearly a heightened sense of ownership in the school and the creation of many positive and successful innovations such as mini-courses, seminar days and Senior Project.

Their efforts as a part of a national movement are well documented. They marched on City Hall, the Administrative Building, the State Capitol and Washington, D.C. to demand justice in civil rights and an end to the war in Vietnam. In short, students were not only angry about poverty, racial injustice and a horrible war, they were willing to make personal sacrifices and, if necessary, "go to the barricades" to bring about changes in those policies. They sat in, they boycotted, they organized, they marched and their efforts were frequently rewarded with enormous strides in civil rights, the ending of the Vietnam War and a series of social service programs still in place today.

In comparison, the Shaker students of the past decade are much less politically involved. I'm not quite sure if there is any issue which would make my sensors mad enough to take some tangible political action which involved some personal sacrifices. Worse, most students today are not only politically apathetic, they are politically ill-informed. A first day of school quiz in my classes showed that a large majority of my students could not identify most of the major leaders of our government or other world powers. No one in an AP class could tell me what a PAC [Political Action Committee] is. Many adults bemoan a lack of *reading* among our students, apparently many don't even *watch* the news on TV.

What happened? Students of today are certainly as bright (or brighter), have much greater media sophistication and yet there remain enormous political problems to be solved. Why have most of Shaker students of the past decade made the transition from activism to apathy? My guess is that the answer lies in a combination of factors including the political shift to the right among students, the general malaise created by the Reagan Admnustration, the growth of a "me" generation mentality, a natural cyclical process and the Catch 22 that a low sense of political efficacy guarantees that students won't have much political impact.

Finally, it is terribly frustrating to be witnessing the greatest financial scandal in the history of this country, see a Congress paralyzed with corruption and incumbency, witness our political system being sold to the highest bidder, view the awful destruction of our environment, see our cities buried under an avalanche of drugs, poor school and economic injustice and then have to work at convincing students that they should vote!

Does all this seem unfair? Am I wrong? Prove it....

Optimism prevails despite acquired problems

BY LAURIE GREEN AND KIM RATHBONE
Staff Reporters

"I hope [your generation] will be able to put a finger on some of the problems because [previous generations] have left you with an awful lot. Next year we will be paying more for the national deficit than any other debt, including defense," said economics teacher Sal Fabrizio.

Freshman Becky Finch is optimistic about the problems Fabrizio mentioned because she thinks her generation is aware and informed.

"We are aware of the problems surrounding us because they are more publicized in the media and discussed at home [more than they used to be]," said Finch.

The awareness of the problems in our society has even influenced adults to feel that the teenagers of today can and will make a big difference.

"Your generation will definitely be able to handle the problems of the future. They are bright, enterprising, and skilled," said guidance counselor Eileen Blattner.

Other adults feel our generation will have a more difficult time. Baird Wiehe, social studies teacher, sympathizes with the young adults of today because they are left to deal with the past generation's problems.

According to Wiehe, teenagers of today are anxious and interested in the problems of today because they were not instrumental in creating them.

According to Fabrizio, our generation does have more opportunities to learn about the world around them than other generations.

"Kids are better trained in economics, because the courses are offered. Before, economics was not offered until college. Now they can take it in high school, and they are better trained than past generations," he said.

Junior Joanna Moore agrees.

"Advanced technology has given students the chance to view the situations around the world. Major sources of information for students of today include T.V., newspapers, magazines, family and school," she said.

However, some are concerned that students are not taking advantage of these opportunities.

"Students are under the impression that we won't have to deal with current problems. [The schools] need to show kids how the issues will affect them," said senior Becca Boatright.

Security guard Cheryel Jennings disagrees.

"I don't think it is the fault of the school. They are doing the best they can to educate," said Jennings.

The motivation of the students seem to be a major concern of many teachers. The teachers feel they present the material in an understandable fashion. The problem may be a lack of interest, not the incapability to learn according to science teacher Rod MacLeod.

"The education is there," he says. "Whether the students are getting it is a different situation."

Today's teenagers defend their honor, reputation

COMMENTARY

BY MOLLY SHAFER AND SHERI SPITZ
Co-Centerpiece Editors

Are the teenagers of today getting a bad rap? This summer two magazines dealing with the 'plight' of our generation were released. Newsweek published its own interesting insight about the workings of the average teenager's mind called "The New Teen" and Time published "Twentysomething" which was more about the generation before us than our own. The Newsweek articles, which dealt with a wide range of topics facing the average teenager such as sex and its complications, homosexuals and different lifestyles, were the most insulting as will be seen in the following article. In an effort to explain our generation and our right to individuality, we have written this in our defense.

"You see, there's nothing to do anymore. Everything decent been done, all the great themes have been used; turned into theme parks. So I don't find it exactly cheerful to be living in the middle of a totally exhausted decade where there's nothing to look forward to and no one to look up to."

Christian Slater, known as Hard Harry in his new movie, "Pump up the Volume," uses these words to describe the situation he feels he and the other teenagers of this decade have to deal with. He's right. There is virtually no universal hero or cause for our generation to follow.

"Drugs are out, sex is out, politics are out. Everything's on hold. I mean, we definitely need something new. I keep waiting for some new voice to come out of somewhere and say hey, wait a minute, what's wrong with this picture," Hard Harry says.

Or *are* they all out? According to *Newsweek*, "Today's teenagers, who wouldn't carry books or share milkshakes if their lives depended on it, are ditching the preliminaries and cutting straight to the chase. They're courting earlier, they're paying more to do it and, sadly, they're tumbling into the back seat so quickly, you'd think they were getting honor points for it."

What we would like to know is how a generation that was proud to host something like Woodstock which was nothing but sex, drugs and rock and roll, can condemn our generation for doing what they see as almost exactly the same thing.

While these same generations complain that we are politically inactive, materially motivated, and just plain selfish, it would be enlightening if they would look at who our morals come from, namely, them.

"Consider the life of a teenager. You have parents and teachers telling you what to do... magazines and TV telling you what to do, but you know what you have to do. Your job... is to get accepted, get a cute girlfriend and to think up something great to do for the rest of your life," says Hard Harry.

According to Gavin Orzame, 18, quoted in *Time* magazine, "The kids of the 1960's had it easy. Back then they had a war and the civil rights movement. Now there are so many issues that it's hard to get one big rallying point."

Since the beginning of our school careers, we have been taught that education is our key to the world and all it offers. Upon entering high school most students at Shaker find the entire four years geared toward eventual college enrollment. We have found that in order to escape high school relatively intact, it is necessary to become socially acceptable as well. Grade point averages are everything, or so we're told, so who has time to worry about who George Bush is nominating for the Supreme Court (David Souter) or who the Secretary of State (James Baker) is?

"The really important problems, ranging from the national debt to homelessness are too large and complex to comprehend. And always the great, intimidating shadow of the 1960's style activism hovers in the background. Twentysomething youths suspect that today's attempts at political and social action pale in comparison with the excitement or draft dodging or freedom riding," *Time* said.

Why deal with government when it is all so corrupt? What is it that we, who have no political voice, can do to change this corrupt political epidemic? We have so many problems facing the generations before us, that it only seems right that we should concentrate on our educations now, so eventually we can deal with the problems that are not being solved.

It seems as though it is the 60's generation, who is the most critical of our generation. Ironically, they are the ones who are leaving in their wake tremendous problems which will seriously affect our futures.

"The generation that had Vietnam and Watergate is going to be known for leaving us all their problems. They came out of Camelot and blew it," said 'Bruno' in *Time magazine*.

Protesting in the sixties did some good, but it seems as though those protesters are living with the very things they fought against when they were young and politically aware.

We will admit that we have problems following the political scene today and that we don't protest things that we find wrong or unfair. However, thinking back on all the times when our parents have made decisions for us that we don't like and then having protested, the most common response we recall is 'Life isn't fair. Get used to it.' So we did, and now we're criticized for not standing up for what we believe in.

"We're all worried. We're all in pain. That comes from having eyes and ears. Just remember one thing: it can't get any worse, it can only get better. High school is the bottom. Being a teenager sucks, but that's the point. Just hang on and hang in there. I know all about the hating and the sneering. I'm a member of the 'why bother' generation myself. It begins with us, not with politicians, the experts or the teachers, but with us... the ones who need it most," Hard Harry said.

As for now, while we are all still in the exciting land of teenage heaven remember: talk hard and carry a small stick. Because a large one won't fit in the car on the way to college.

LOCKERS

Adorned locker quickly becomes enemy

BY KATHRYN SCHULZ
Staff Reporter

I was just a freshman.

Just a confused freshman who had spent the first two hours of my high school career in homeroom anxiously studying the map of the high school in the back of the student handbook. I was wondering if I would be able to get to class without turning the high school the same direction I'd been holding the map when I was given a little slip of paper. It had my locker number on it. It was up to me to find the locker itself. This seemed to me to be a feat on par with scaling Mount Everest, for the school seemed to be roughly the size of Texas. (Oddly enough, it has shrunk some every year since my arrival, to the extent that, in recent times, it seems too small to hold me for an entire day.)

In regard to my locker, I was a lucky freshman in four ways. 1) I found it with relative ease; 2) It was more or less centrally located; 3) It was "large" meaning only that it was not one of those narrow things that look like undernourished metal rulers; and 4) No upperclassman tried to put me into it. Interpreting these to be good omens for my high school career, I took quite a liking to my locker, which has lasted over the years.

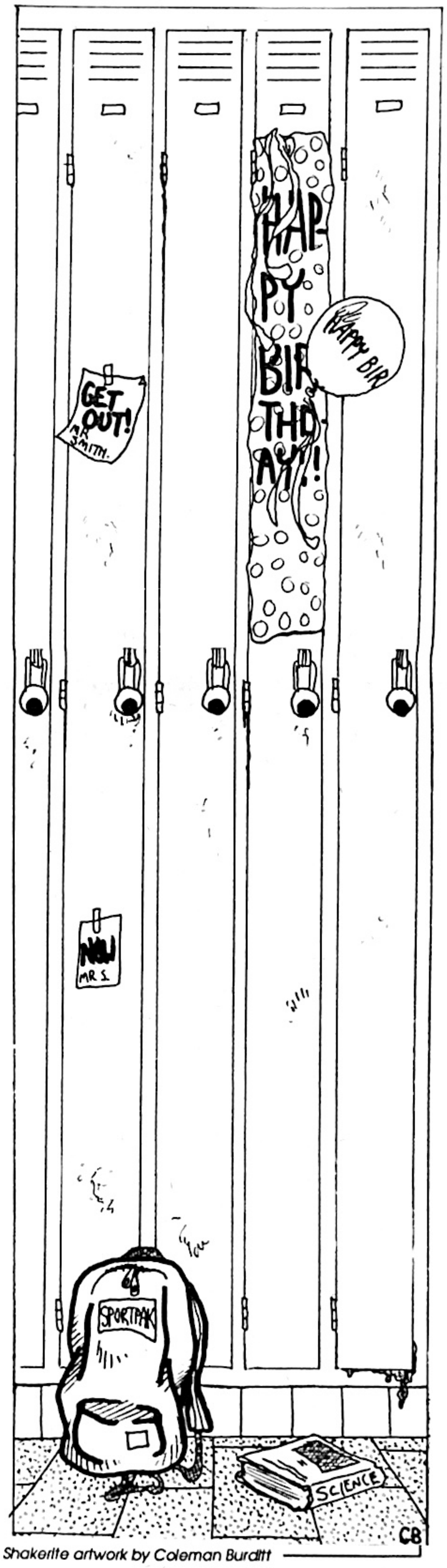
I leave my locker pretty empty. It acts as a bookshelf, closet, and part-time garbage can, and beyond that I don't ask much of it. The result of my one-time attempt to adorn it turned out to be unsuccessful and indeed near-fatal. At the beginning of my sophomore year, a friend gave me some of those magnetic, colorful letters that you find on the refrigerators in homes of small children. The letters originally spelled out "HI MY NAME IS KATHRYN", but due to constant slamming and not-infrequent kicking, it read "I N AR N" by the end of the year.

After completing my last final, the same friend who gave me the letters set out to clean my locker with me so we could leave and get on with the business of enjoying summer. Having finally finished cleaning my locker, it occurred to me to wonder what happened to those missing letters. A casual search revealed nothing, so I stuck my head entirely into my locker to inspect a little more carefully. At this point my locker decided to avenge itself of all those wrongful kicks I had bestowed thoughtlessly upon it, for no sooner was my head inside than it metamorphosed into a locker roughly the size of a popsicle stick.

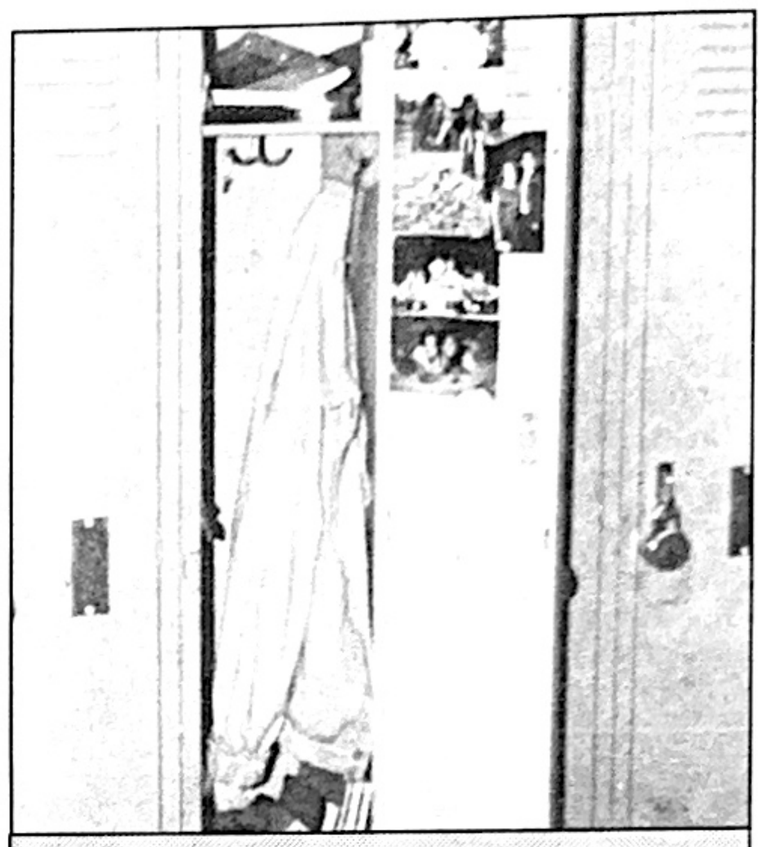
The importance of finding the magnetic letters dwindled as it became apparent that my locker and I had become one entity. It occurred to me that I might have to spend my summer in the high school, yet despite the gravity of this idea, my friend and I were convulsed by uncontrollable giggles. I was unable to control my laughter, and as it bounced around me in the echo chamber of the locker, it attracted the attention of a proctor, who emerged into the hall to reprimand us.

There are few situations in which it is more difficult to maintain one's dignity then when your head is stuck in your locker and your body is bent at ridiculous right angles to the ground, so it is fortunate that soon afterwards, my locker decided that the score was even and released me from its half- nelson hold on my head.

It is still a mystery to me as to what became of those letters, for that locker is finite in size and I am convinced that they are in there somewhere. But I have learned my lesson and don't intend to mess with my locker again. I just hope I can retain it for next year, I wouldn't want it to be usurped by some freshman and adorned with New Kids posters.



Shakerite artwork by Coleman Burditt



LOATHSOME LOCKERS: Size and location create problems for students and staff.
Photo by Miles Molyneaux

Lockers cause catastrophes

BY JILL PELAVIN
Spotlight Editor

"If you have a lock on an unassigned locker ,your lock will be cut if it is not removed immediately. Again, if you have a lock on an illegal locker please move it immediately..."

Every year students place locks on "illegal" lockers because of problems ranging from the lousy sizes to terrible locations.

"My locker is in Siberia. It's located at the end of a hallway where nobody goes. If I tried to go [to it] in between classes, I would be late, so I just carry my books around all day," said junior Ted Folkman.

Students unhappy with their assigned locker usually place their locks on other lockers or share, which creates catastrophes for the staff.

"The reason we cut locks is because people put their locks on unassigned lockers when they are not supposed to," said locker coordinator Isaac Smith.

Placing locks on "illegal lockers" can be easily justified with all of the problems students encounter.

"Lockers are easy to break into, hard to open, small, and so close together that sometimes there is no room [to open your locker]," said sophomore Rachel Lissauer.

Lockers are assigned in alphabetical order, which causes major problems for siblings.

"The worst part about my locker is that it is next to my sister's," said freshman Erin Whipple.

Every year students are assigned new lockers, and the office is filled with unhappy students.

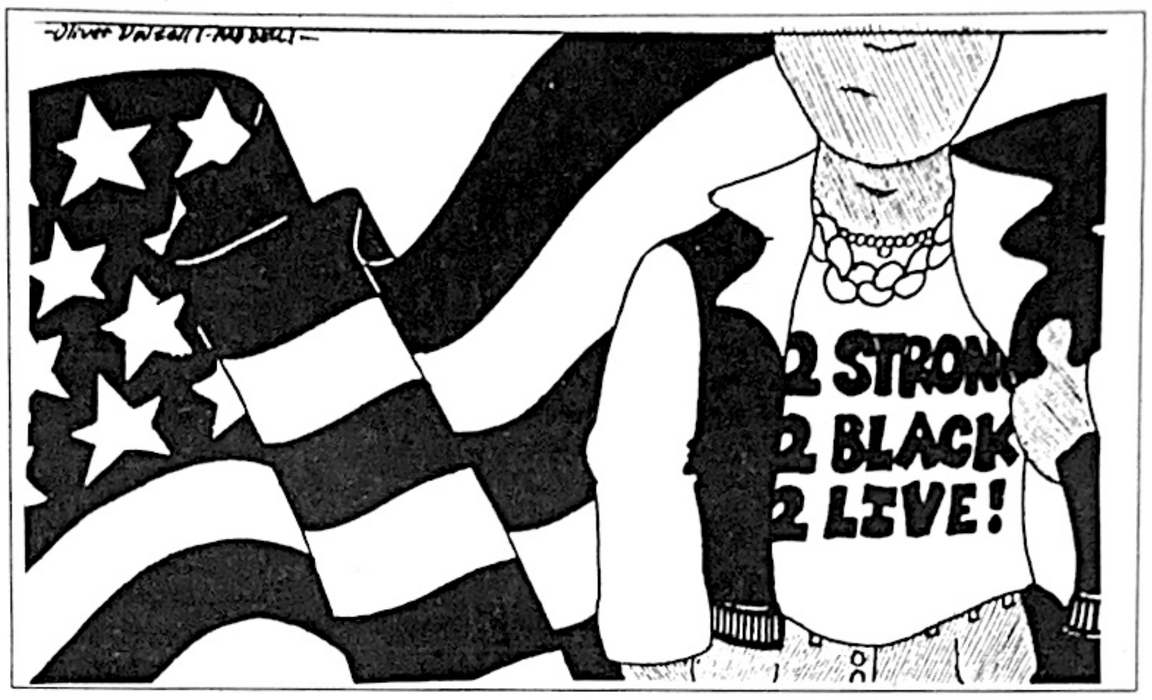
"It's inconvenient to switch lockers every year. Once you get used to the one assigned, you have to get a new one," said senior Kelly Goldstein.Fighting lockers in order to open them and slamming them shut before anything can escape has lockers prone to much abuse.

"I kick my locker at least once a day to relieve anxiety, close it, or just because I feel like it," said sophomore Jawan Robinson.

Of course, all of our complaints are forgotten thanks to previous owners who are kind enough as to leave some type of growth in our lockers, and for the coat of blue paint that is turning into a lovely coat of rust.

Rap music 'Banned in the U.S.A.'

BY JEREMY PARIS
Staff Reporter



Can 2 Live Crew be "As Nasty As They Wanna Be"? The answer was given when a Federal Court Judge in Florida made 2 live Crew's album the first record ever to be ruled obscene in Federal Court.

All sales of "As Nasty As They Wanna Be" were banned in Florida after a record dealer in Sarasota sold the album to an 11-year-old girl. In Gainesville, the 2 Live Crew was threatened with arrest if they performed their lyrics at a concert although they performed them anyway and were not arrested. They have been around for many years, but it was not until recently that they ran into censorship.

"They didn't start censoring until white people started to listen to it," Shaker graduate Aaron Patrick said. "It's really the language of urban black kids."

Many students said they felt that deciding what music they listen to should be left up to them.

"It's a violation of our personal rights," senior Peggy Donnelly said of the censorship ruling. "We have the right to choose what we listen to."

Donnelly's statements were echoed by other students who feel that censorship of the rap music is an infringement of the First Amendment right to freedom of expression.

"If the government starts censoring one thing, pretty soon it will be censoring another," sophomore Abigail Randall said. "Censorship is not American.

The record store chain, Record Town, made a corporate decision not to carry in their stores "As Nasty As They Wannna Be." However, according to Beachwood Place Record Town store manager Jim Rumsey they do carry the clean version of the album.

In addition, Record Town does carry the uncensored version of another 2 Live Crew album, "Banned in the USA" which also contains the same type of explicit lyrics.

"It is like they are trying to make a stand, but then they turn it around," Rumsey said.

Although Record Towne refuses to sell "As Nasty As They Wanna Be," national sales have increased greatly since the obscenity battle began and are now approaching two million dollars.

Other music with explicit lyrics (such as another rap group, N.W.A.) comes with labels on it that warn of obscenity. However, these labels do not deny children the right to purchase the album.

Camelot Music has a similar policy concerning the rap music and also does not carry the uncensored version of "As Nasty As They Wanna Be."

"I wouldn't buy it and I wouldn't let my kids listen to it, but others should be able to buy it," said the Randall Mall branch store manager Phil Potter who disagrees with Camelot Music's policy.

The possibility of censorship has become a topic of much debate because of the fears that explicit lyrics will influence what children think and do.

"If you are listening to the lyrics for a message then you will be influenced by it," senior Carrie Berger said.

Other students said that while music does not directly affect how you act, it can affect your mood.

"The wilder stuff makes you wild while the quieter stuff calms you down," a sophomore said.

While many believe that teenagers have developed a sense of values, the fear is that young children who are not as emotionally mature could be more greatly influenced by the type of music they listen to.

"Little kids are vulnerable and what they hear can influence them," senior Monique Gresham said. Gresham said that she is older and knows better than to be influenced.

According to Newsweek magazine, since "As Nasty As They Wanna Be" has been censored in Florida, sales have seen a dramatic upswing due to the notoriety gained in the anti-obscenity battle.

Patrick summed up the trend by saying, "They're going to listen to it one way or another."

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Hey dude: Shaker alumnus turns acting hobby into career

BY DAVID LIPTON
Staff Reporter

Acting started out as something to do in his spare time but it has grown into a career for former Shaker student Jonathan Galkin, who now appears on TV show "Hey Dude" which airs at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday on Nickelodeon.

"I did it in my free time," Galkin said. "Some people played football; I acted. It was an extra-curricular activity."

He preformed his first major role at the high school in the freshman play "The Skin of our Teeth." Galkin claims that he finds working on TV easier than working on plays.

"It's easier than plays because you don't have to memorize a lot of lines at once and you can do take after take. The other kids on the show really, really help," he said.

While acting started out only as an extra-curricular activity, his mother says he grew to enjoy it as something more.

"It's all he ever wanted to do," Susan Galkin, his mother, said. "We've supported him all the way."

He performed at Highland Park High School, which he attended after moving from Shaker, and attended acting classes at Northwestern in its high school program. He graduated high school early to work on "Hey Dude." Galkin will start classes at NYU and says he will act in the drama department and take some acting classes there.

He has always been very independent about his roles, his mother said.

"He never wanted anybody [in the family] to practice lines," she said. "He always kept it to himself from the beginning."

The show films 10 hours a day, from about 6:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The other days are spent practicing lines and working on new scripts.

The hardest part, says Galkin, is the heat. Filming in Arizona, the summer temperatures average around 110 degrees and working under the lights and cameras it feels like 120 or 130 degrees, he said.

"The conditions are brutal. The heat is a real problem. The heat sometimes makes people irritable," he said.

Galkin started filming in February and his episodes started airing in July. He says the show will continue to film until December, but they may film more because of the show's new popularity.

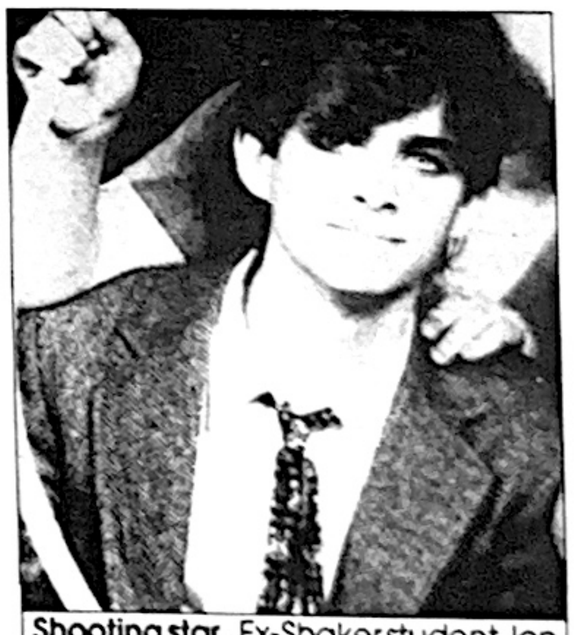
Galkin said that he enjoys filming because the atmosphere of the set is very relaxed and all on the crew are friends.

"The mood on the set is very laid back," Galkin said. "It's not tense at all. [The cast is] the nicest bunch of guys you'll ever meet. There's no fighting at all."

Galkin currently has no plans for any other shows or movies past acting at NYU. He also says he will be getting an agent while in New York.

"At this point I'm in no position to argue my position," he said. "I have no plans to do other shows or anything."

So at least for now his "extra-curricular activity" has turned out to be something much more for this former Shaker student.



Shooting star. Ex-Shaker student Jon Galkin in the play "The Skin of our Teeth" PHOTO COURTESY OF JAMES THORNTON

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Life in the closet

Homosexuals speak out against homophobia

Susan Connelly conducted interviews with the subjects of the following article. To preserve the anonymity of the subjects, they prefer to be referred to as Dave and Paul.

BY SUSAN CONNELLY
Feature Editor

"I first realized I was gay in the eighth grade. Two years later I came out of the closet and told my friends I was gay. Two days later I walked alone through the halls without any friends, and listened to the word 'fag' echo in my ears," junior Dave said.

Dave decided to tell people he was gay after his first gay involvement. According to Dave, the decision was an easy one. However, other homosexuals said that the decision to tell people their secret was extremely difficult.

"It is not that I didn't want to tell people I was gay. Trust me I wanted to," 19-year-old Paul said. "But it is not that easy. It seems that everyone is prejudiced in some way or another against gays. In most places today it is unacceptible to call someone who is Jewish a 'kike', or an African American a 'nigger'. But if someone's gay, it is almost an obligation to call them a 'fag' or a 'fairy', or people think you are gay too."

Both Paul and Dave said that they believed the most prejudice exists at the high school level. Senior Ethan Skerry agreed that high school students have more prejudice because of the great insecurities that exist at that level.

"There's more pressure now to be the same," Skerry said. "Teenagers are scared of anything that is different. It's hard because you are brought up to think that there is only one normal way to be. But whatever is right for you is what is normal."

Paul said that he grew up learning that being a homosexual was not normal at all, but a sin and a perversion. This made being gay all the harder, he said.

"Realizing you're gay is not always pleasant," Paul said. "It's difficult to acknowledge that you're different from everyone else. It's a real lonely time when you need a lot of support. In my case, I had no support. My parents thought it was a sin, and the one time I brought it up, they told me it was my imagination and they would disown me if I continued to be that way. My friends always picked on gays, so I knew they would be less than supportive. It's no wonder I did not tell anyone I was gay until I was out of high school."

Paul told people he was gay his first year out of college after attending a support group for gays and lesbians. Paul said some of his friends backed off entirely, and others just did not feel comfortable with him. However, according to Paul, a few of his friends were very supportive and really helped him through the tough times. Paul's parents refused to talk to him at first, but have recently made efforts to contact him.

"It was not as bad as I thought it would be," Paul said. "I feel like I am being true to myself. I have found a lover, and I have been with him for over a year. I wish I could say that everything was fine, and we lived happily ever after, but it is not that way. I am subject to prejudice now as much as ever."

Last fall Paul arrived home to his apartment in Cleveland to find the word "fag" written on his door and a brick through his window. Paul said that residents in his apartment building have moved out because they are afraid they will "catch" AIDS.

Both Paul and Dave feel that people have become even more prejudiced towards gays because of the AIDS epidemic. Dave said that he feels that people think that just because someone is gay then they have AIDS.

"That is just not true," Dave said. "I should hope by now people realize that AIDS is a disease that effects everyone. If you think that it only effects gays, you are not only dead wrong, but you are very likely to become a victim without taking precautions."

"I think it all comes down to people's fears," Paul said. "Yes, I am different. Why should you hate me for it? I am not trying to convert you into being gay, although most people do try and convert me to be 'straight.' Any type of prejudice arises from people's fear of the unknown. So I say, learn a little bit about being gay instead of being afraid of it, and we'll solve the problem. Sound too simple? Just try it, you'd be surprised what a little knowledge can do for you.

SHAKERITE ARTWORK BY HERB ASCHERMAN

Society encourages prejudice, hatred against homosexuals

BY JENNIFER FRIEDMAN
Staff Reporter

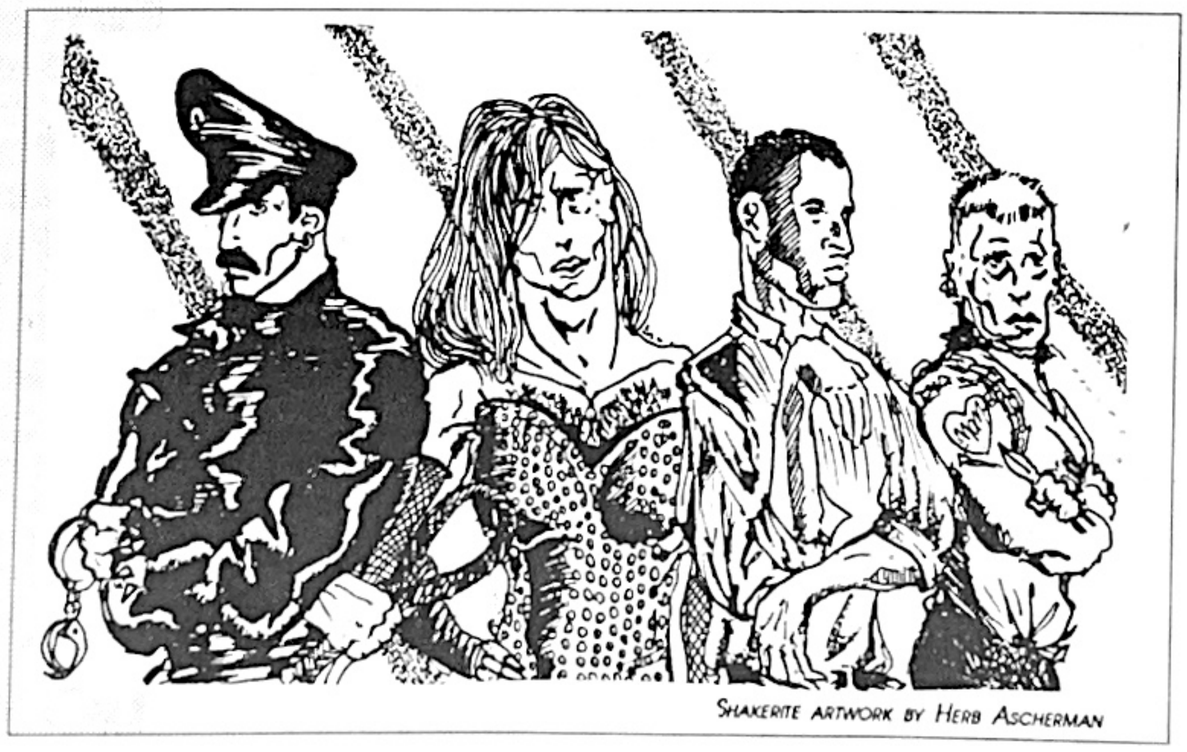
Homophobia and prejudice against gays and lesbians is nothing new. Even the Bible commands,

"Do not lie with a male as you would a woman, since this is a disgusting perversion."

Catholics, Orthodox Jews, and Fundamentalists have long condemned the homosexual lifestyle. However, despite the fact that many religious doctrines prohibit homosexual behavior, gays and lesbians continue to be religiously involved, said Audrey Wertheim, director of the Lesbian/Gay Community Center of Cleveland..

"Gayness is not separated from spirituality", said Audrey Wertheim.

However, religious beliefs are responsible for only a fraction of the homophobia in our society. People, especially teenagers, are constantly surrounded by gay bashing from the media. Performers like Andrew Dice Clay and Eddie Murphy are especially known for the homophobic material.


SHAKERITE ARTWORK BY HERB ASCHERMAN

"Many mass cultural figures use gays and lesbians as the present scapegoat population. It's no different than any other hate humor. However, a lot of the verbal gay bashing is AIDS related," said Wertheim.

In the entertainment industry there a new trend of gay bashing has emerged. In their songs rap groups such as 2 Live Crew have even encouraged people to physically abuse homosexuals. Movies such as "Animal House" portray guys who are weak or won't take advantage of girls as fags. "Bird on a Wire" has a scene that takes place in a beauty parlor. The hairdressers in this scene are portrayed as the stereotypical effeminate males that are associated with homosexuals. Because of stereotypes like these, words like "fag" and "homosexual" have just become insults. Most students said that they do not really think about what these words mean when they say them. They are simply seen as a negative image.

"Movies, which can be very influential on teenagers today, help to reinforce this negative image that exists of gays and lesbians," Wertheim said.

Through movies and other media, society has put such an emphasis on males being what is considered macho and women being what is considered feminine. This indirectly justifies the rampant gay-bashing and the homophobia that goes on in the media today.

Mark Hoskins, biology teacher, believes that because homophobia is so widespread people don't bother to learn the actual facts, and they forget the basic right of being able to live as one pleases.

"My moral standards aren't high enough to judge others. I don't think anyone's are."

Rewriting the dictionary: a selective process

THE SPORTS COLUMN

BY BRIAN RESNIK
Sports Editor

If you look up the word "sport" in the dictionary, you will find that one definition says that a sport is a pastime or diversion.

With today's plethora of so-called sports, perhaps it is time for a new definition. I think so . Therefore, I will take upon myself the burdensome task of defining the word sport. According to Resnik, a sport is anything with a defense, or that requires physical exertion. Anything else is merely a game or hobby.

Is golf a sport? As if! There is no defense at all. In terms of physical exertion, you must be kidding. Profesional golfers have one of the easiest jobs in the world. They must hit a tiny ball into a cup. They get paid for this. They do not even walk. They drive around the course, get out, swing the club, and drive some more. The only defense involved is an occasional gust of wind. Big deal. As government teacher Jerry Graham pointed out, they don't even let spectators make noise, as in most other real sports. Putt-putt's swinging pendulums and windmills provide more defense. Actually, putt-putt is more of a sport than golf. In golf, par for 300 yards is 4. In putt-putt, a par 4 hole is about 25 feet. Think about it.

What needs to be done for golf is simple. Allow opposing golfers to block shots as in the NBA. (Simply standing over the cup would be cup-tending.) The telecast would become more exciting.

"Palmer lines up the putt. It's on line! Trevino comes in and rejects him! What a play!"

In order to make this fair, golfers would be able to continuously hit the ball hockey style.

Speaking of hockey... never mind.

What is the most boring so-called sport to watch on TV? Okay, besides golf. Bowling, right? That is because the players only challenge is to stand every now and then and roll a ball down a lane at 10 stationary targets. And on top of all that, the targets are set up in such a way that if you hit the right one, they all fall down. That is no fun at all. How about moving pins. Perhaps they could also make the pins heavier. How many times have you been bowling, and there was an old lady next to you. She puts the ball between her legs, and rolls it about .5 mph. When it finally reaches the pins five minutes later, it actually knocks a few down. If the pins were heavier, it would actually require effort to bowl. Make them about 40 pounds.

Synchronized swimming and rhythmic gymnastics have become Olympic sports. This has lowered my respect for the games. These are not sports. Anybody can spin crepe paper above their heads, or raise their legs in water. These should be eliminated from the Olympics.

Wrestling requires physical exertion. There is an opponent providing defense. However, since it is my definition, and mine alone, I am reserving the right to ban from sportiness any action where two people of the same sex roll around on a mat together. Wrestling is not a game either. It is simply an action.

This is just one person's definition. Feel free to think of your own. They probably won't be right, but go ahead and do it anyways..

HACKING AWAY. Senior Heather MacDonald goes for the ball in the field hockey team's 2-1 loss at Hathaway Brown.
PHOTO BY CLAY WEINER

Field hockey team aims for states

BY JEFF EPSTEIN
Staff Reporter

Team unity and togetherness have been the key as the Shaker Heights field hockey team jumped out to a 6-1 start this season.

"We work really well together," said senior captain Kristin Listerman, "Everybody is pretty good and does their job."

The team coach, Linda Betley, agrees. "The team as a whole is much better (than last year) because we're playing as a team."

Playing as a team enabled Shaker to win their first three games of the season. The Raiders beat Stow 4-0, Orange 5-0, and Kent Roosevelt 3-0 before losing to Hathaway Brown, 2-0.

"The big disadvantage at H.B. was their home field advantage," senior co-captain Theresa Colson said. "The ball rolled very slowly because they have long grass. We overran the ball."

According to Listerman, the team has been working on its spirit and unity by holding team dinners before the games.

Aside from culinary work, the offense has also been a part of the team. Betley said that the team offense has been very good this year, due to very aggressive play.

The team has 13 games in the Northeast Ohio Field Hockey league in which they finished second behind Western Reserve Academy last year.

The division tournament is Oct. 12, and after that, the team closes out the season with games against Andrews and Western Reserve Acadamy.

Following that, the state tournament is at the end of October.

"I hope to go as far as we can," said Betley, who has coached since 1973, referring to the state tournament.

Last Monday, the team lost to Laurel 2-1. The game was televised on Cablevision. According to team members, the game was considered an upset.

Their next home game is Oct. 23 against W.R.A.

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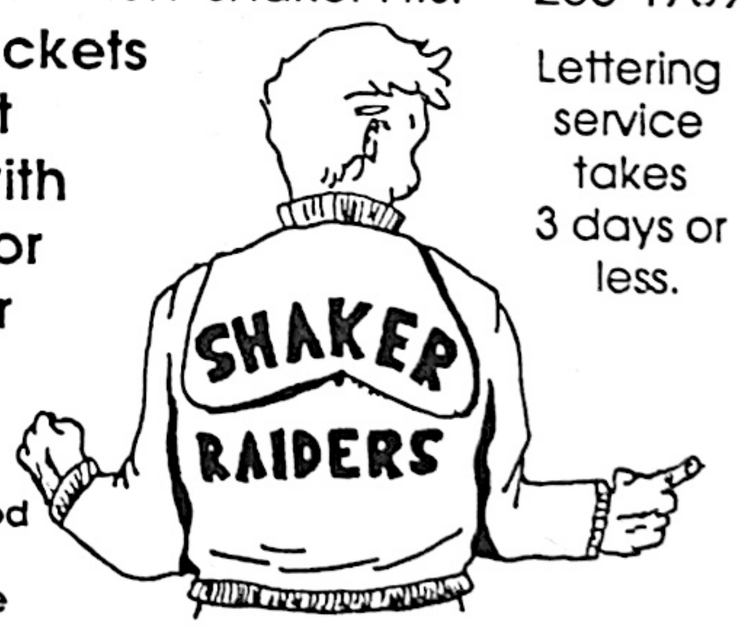


First year team struggling for first victory

Girls soccer winless in seven games

BY DAN FRIEDELL AND DAN RATNER
Staff Reporters

The first season of girls soccer at Shaker is coming to a close led by experienced ex-boys soccer coach Baird Wiehe.

Wiehe, who began the boys' soccer program 24 years ago, found that there was a great demand to institute a new program for the girls who wish to play soccer.

"The parents were interested in forming a girls' team, and I wanted to help," said Wiehe.

People joined the team for various reasons, but all shared the enjoyment of playing soccer.

After three seasons of field hockey, senior Elizabeth Foley quit the team to join the soccer program.

"I wanted to be a pioneer and be part of something new," she said.

Last year junior Amanda Banchek was involved in a controversy, being the only girl on the boys' junior varsity team.

"I don't feel I have anything to prove," said Banchek. "I wasn't treated any differently than the guys, nor was I trying to make a point."

The team has played several teams, including recent games against Willoughby South, Madison and Mentor. The girls are struggling and are beginning to set next season's hopes and goals.

"I knew this would be a building year, and I hope we can eliminate injuries due to our being out of shape," said Wiehe, "by developing an off-season conditioning and instruction program."

The team is divided about this idea. Wiehe has begun to question the players commitment to soccer and sports in general.

"I have been playing 'practice roulette' because I never know who will show up at practice," said the coach.

The players that show up on a daily basis are becoming frustrated with their teammates that do not attend.

"Attendance sucks and it hurts the team," said Banchek. "The coach has to explain what to do in a game to those who missed practice."

Some players have begun to feel that conditioning in the off-season would be difficult to accomplish.

"It would be impossible," said junior Anne Hickman, "because most players don't even come to practices."

Others feel that a conditioning program would greatly benefit the team.

"It would prevent a lot of injuries, and we would not get tired later in the games," said sophomore Joanna Garcia.

The lack of conditioning showed in the Mentor game. The team was leading Mentor 2-1 at halftime and lost the game 4-2.

Although the team is struggling, they expect to improve upon many areas and learn to work to work together better. The coach has high hopes that this will occur.

"I think we will continue to get better as the season goes along," said Wiehe.

They hope to put together a few wins in the duration of the year.

"We probably will start off slow, then work up to win a few games by playing as a team," said freshman Molly Willis.

The team is currently 0-7.

"I'm not worried about wins and losses, and I hope we can get a core of players to return next year," said Wiehe.

The players think highly of coach Wiehe.

"He is a good coach, " said Hickman. "He pushes us hard and gives a lot of encouragement, which a new team needs."

According to Wiehe, he concentrates on making the practices skill building but also enjoyable for the players.

"The practices are pretty fun, but there's a lot of running and drills," said Garcia.

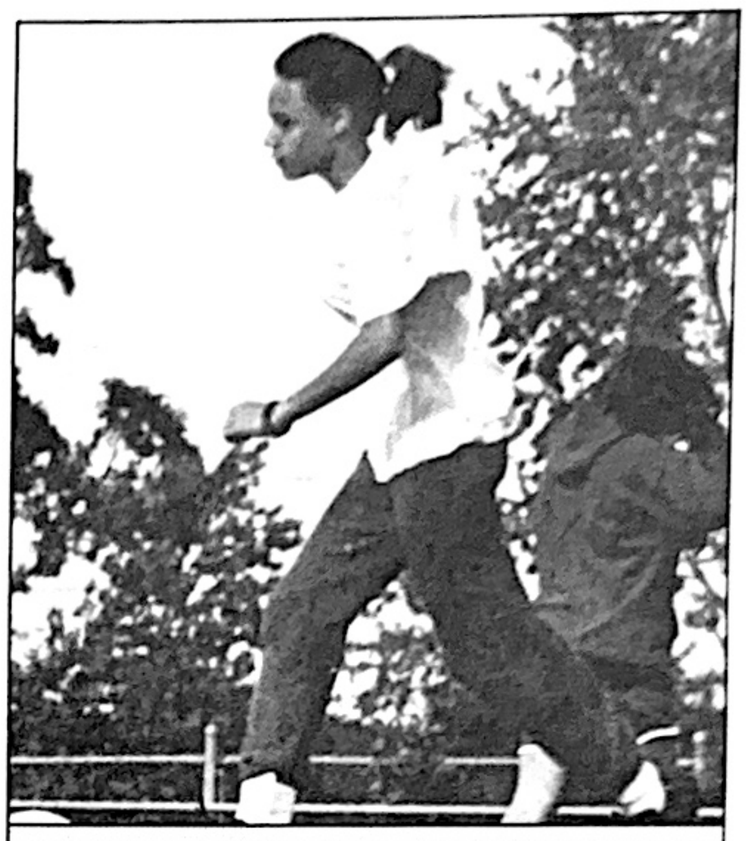
The team is struggling at mid-season, and Wiehe is now attempting to gain skill and knowledge for next season. He reminds the team that this is a building year and it will not be a disaster to lose every game.

Some of the girls feel that the team needs more publicity, and it might help their morale if the team was known around the school.

"We don't have much recognition, and maybe we're not taken seriously enough to be on the announcements," said Bancheck.

As the season comes to a close, Wiehe wonders if the answer to his problem is as simple as gaining varsity status , promoting a good team attitude, and better organization of the club.

" I think the problem was compounded by the newness of the program, lack of organization, and not much promotion of the team in the high school or the middle school," said Wiehe. " As for now," he added, " we have to finish stong and keep our eyes on the future."



SHE SHOWED UP. At least one player was present at a recent team practice. Coach Baird Wiehe and a few dedicated players have criticized the team for showing apathy towards practice attendence. This could explain an 0-7 record this year.

PHOTO BY CHARLIE MARTIN

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